

For General Release

REPORT TO:	Councillor Tony Newman, the Leader of the Council 2nd May 2017
AGENDA ITEM:	n/a
SUBJECT:	Community Safety Strategy 2017-2020
LEAD OFFICER:	Shifa Mustafa - Executive Director of PLACE Andy Opie – Director of Safety
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Hamida Ali, Cabinet Member for Communities, Safety and Justice
WARDS:	All
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/ AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON Croydon’s Community Strategy 2016-2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secure a safer, cleaner and greener borough• Secure a good start in life• A great place to work, learn and live• Improving the environmental wellbeing of our residents and communities• Importance of providing a safe clean environment to a place of success and future growth Corporate Plan/Priority projects <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Growth• Independence• Liveability <p>The report sets out the council’s partnership approach to tackle community safety, which includes, tackling the overall crime rate in Croydon, including violent crime, domestic violence, serious youth violence, property crime, reducing re-offending rates, Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), drugs and alcohol. The strategy also focuses on increasing community confidence and addressing issues of environmental crime.</p>	
FINANCIAL IMPACT <p>The main resource for delivering the strategy will be the partners themselves. Partner agencies include, Police, Probation, Courts, NHS, Prisons, and the Fire Authority. The Safer Croydon Partnership is responsible for commissioning projects from the London Crime Prevention Fund. Croydon has been awarded £833,527 in 2017/18 and £583,469 in 2018/19 from the London Crime Prevention Fund, so this strategy ensures that we are clear about our local priorities and that this grant is allocated to the right projects. Funding for the final year of the strategy will be confirmed at a later date</p>	

FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO: this is not a key decision

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Leader of the Council recommends to Full Council that it agree the Community Safety Strategy for Croydon 2017-2020.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 This report presents an overview of the Community Safety Strategy for Croydon 2017-2020 (the Strategy) and seeks a recommendation for its sign off at Full Council. The Strategy has been developed following extensive research and consultation so that the Safer Croydon Partnership has a full understanding regarding crime trends and public perception. Following the development process the 5 main priorities of the Strategy have been agreed as:

- Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime and domestic abuse
- Improve the safety of children and young people
- Improve public confidence and community engagement.
- Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime
- Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime; focus on hate crime.

3. COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2017-2020

3.1 The Safer Croydon Partnership (the Partnership) has a statutory duty in relation to reducing crime and ASB, including the misuse of drugs and alcohol and to tackle re-offending. The Partnership comprises the Council, Police, NHS, Fire Authority, Probation services, businesses and the voluntary and community sector. The statutory duties include producing a three-year Community Safety Strategy, undertaking annual reviews, regular assessments and consultation to ensure priorities and actions are clearly identified and based on good evidence.

3.2 The development of the strategy has taken place following the production of a Strategic Assessment, which analyses crime and anti-social behaviour trends together with extensive consultation with the public and partners. All of this information is then used to enable the Partnership to agree its priorities.

3.3 The Strategic Assessment interprets and presents the summary findings of an intelligence analysis of data provided from a number of different sources including the police, council, NHS, probation, fire and other partner agencies. The Strategic Assessment identifies current and possible future issues and its purpose is to help inform the Partnership work programme. The key findings from the most recent Strategic Assessment are detailed below.

3.4 Total Notifiable Offences (TNO)

- Overall the volume of TNO crime in Croydon, has been going down, reaching a low of 28265 TNO offences in 2014 from a base line of 34194 TNO offences in 2005.
- 2015 saw a small rise overall in the volume of TNO's to 28739 offences however this was still a 16% reduction against the baseline year of 2005.
- 2016 again saw a rise overall in the volume of TNO's to 30034 offences however this was still a 12% reduction against the baseline year of 2005.

3.5 Offence profile

- All violent crimes have seen increases in the last year.
- Racist and religious hate crime has seen an increase.
- Gun crime and knife crime saw reductions up until 15/16 but have then seen large increases in the last year.
- Residential burglary, and personal robbery have seen a marked reductions up until 15/16 with a small increase in 16/17.
- Theft of a motor vehicle and theft from a motor vehicle have both seen reductions up to 15/16 with increases in 16/17.
- Robbery saw a 70% reduction between 12/13 and 15/16 but has then seen a large increase in 2016/17.
- Domestic abuse continues to see an upward trend across London. In the rolling year to December 2016 there were 3800 domestic abuse offences recorded. Croydon is ranked 7th highest for domestic abuse, with 21 incidents per 1,000 population in the rolling year to December 2016.
- Fly tipping has also increased and is a concern for the public; however this may be a consequence of our successful 'Don't Mess With Croydon Campaign resulting in more people being aware of the problem.
- The current trend shows that anti-social behaviour has dropped significantly over the last few years but has seen a small increase in the last year.

3.6 Victims

- There were 10,698 victims of crime in Croydon. Of those victims, there were slightly more females than males.
- The peak age range for victims are aged 20 to 24, the most vulnerable age group are aged 15 to 34.

3.7 Offenders

- There were 2783 offenders of those there were more male offenders than female.
- The offenders most likely to commit offences of violence are aged 15 to 29. Offenders aged 15 to 19 are most likely to commit knife crime offences.
- Offenders most likely to commit offences of violence are aged 15 to 29.

3.8 Locations

- Croydon town centre is the key crime hot spot together with the northern wards, primarily due to their large population and transport links.

3.9 Time and day

- Across the week the peak time for all offences is from 3pm to 7pm and 8pm to 1am, and the peak days for crime are Sunday and Saturday
- 3.10 There is a correlation between areas of high deprivation and crime rates in Croydon; more crime is committed in the north of the borough, largely due to a higher population density, and more pockets of deprivation. Vulnerability is becoming increasingly concentrated within certain places and amongst certain individuals. According to Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC's) Vulnerable Localities Profile, the top 10 per cent of wards (63) are disproportionately impacted compared to other parts of London. On average, over 3 times more victims of burglary, robbery, sexual offences live in these top 10 per cent compared to the least vulnerable. It is therefore important that interventions are targeted to the most vulnerable locations.
- 3.11 One priority location moving forward will be the town centre and West Croydon area. Since the summer of 2016 the town centre and West Croydon has experienced anti social behavior, which requires long term strategies to tackle. Particular issues worth highlighting are street drinking in the Queens Gardens and high volumes of school children congregating on North End with some significant disorder on a couple of occasions and a serious stabbing in early February 2017. Partnership strategies will be a priority in the forthcoming strategy, including exploring the use of Public Space Protection Orders.
- 3.12 As well as the short and medium term priorities to tackle the issues in the town centre it is important that we look to the future of Croydon and the significant growth that will be happening over the next few years. The construction phase will pose a unique set of safety and security issues but it is essential that we take every opportunity to ensure that we end up with a safe, modern, attractive space. Designing out crime through our planning processes is essential as well as reviewing our CCTV service. This includes opportunities for modernising and improving our current infrastructure as well as making better use of the CCTV Control Room as a partnership operations hub.
- 3.13 Safety and security on the transport network is a current priority for the Safer Croydon Partnership. The number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions on Croydon in 2015 is at an all time low, having dropped from the previous record low of 71 in 2014, to 65 in 2015. The three year rolling average has fallen to 69.0, and is below the target figure of 87.8 for the year 2020. This issue was not flagged as a particular priority by the public when asked as part of the Safer Croydon survey but this remains a strategic priority for the borough. Enforcement of road safety is the responsibility of the police but there are a number of partnership interventions. These include Operation Safeway, which is a high profile tactic of engaging with drivers at the most vulnerable junctions, providing education and enforcement where appropriate. The Council and Police Safer Transport Team also work in partnership to utilise the various speed detection devices at key locations around the Borough. In addition Transport for London and the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) work together to run Community Roadwatch - a road safety initiative which aims to reduce speeding in residential areas. If local residents want to take part they can contact their local MPS Safer Transport team, which can be located

through the Met Police website or on the following link:

[MPS Safer Transport Team](#)

Mayors Office for Policing and Crime

3.14 MOPAC have recently launched a new Policing and Crime Plan for London. This can be found at:

https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/mopac_police_and_crime_plan_2017-2021.pdf

This sets out a focus on the following key priorities:

- keeping children and young people safe.
- tackling violence against women and girls.
- Standing together against extremism, hatred and intolerance.

Underpinning themes include:

- vulnerability
- meeting the needs of victims
- social integration and tackling inequalities, with an aspiration that *'the place that you live in, the communities you belong to and the individual that you are should not disproportionately impact your exposure to crime'*

3.15 There are a number of proposed commitments by MOPAC including:

- 2 dedicated PCs plus 1 PCSO per ward
- Consideration of merging Borough Command Units. The current proposal is for Croydon to merge with Sutton and Bromley
- Focus on protecting vulnerable children and adults, in collaboration with statutory and voluntary sector partners.
- Invest in new technology and ways of working to keep police officers out on the front line and help them do their jobs more effectively.
- Encourage more female and BAME Londoners to join the MPS and build lasting, successful careers for all MPS officers and staff.
- Support the work of the Night Czar to deliver a safe and enjoyable night time economy.
- Work together with the MPS, TfL, British Transport Police (BTP), City of London Police and other enforcement partners to keep our transport network and roads safe.
- Work with businesses to help protect them from crime, making our city a safer place to work and do business.

3.16 Croydon welcomes the shift in focus away from the high volume crimes such as thefts and criminal damage to more of an emphasis on supporting victims and reducing vulnerability. Croydon experiences high levels of domestic abuse, sexual violence, serious youth violence, hate crimes and have already started shifting its focus for commissioned projects through the London Crime Prevention Fund (see 3.20) in line with the Mayor of London's plan.

3.17 From March 2017, MOPAC are proposing to adopt a new method for prioritising and scrutinising local (Croydon's) policing priorities. High harm crimes and protecting vulnerable people will be included in local priorities in every borough across London to ensure that the police and local partners are focused properly on these most serious and harmful offences against vulnerable people. This

includes a focus on child sexual exploitation, violence against women and girls, gangs, knife crime and gun crime.

- 3.18 However, the issues of greatest concern and the highest volume crimes in one borough may be very different to those of another. The Partnership have been liaising with MOPAC over its local priorities and these have been agreed as violence with injury (non-domestic), burglary and anti-social behaviour.
- 3.19 This change in focus makes it even more crucial that the Safer Croydon Partnership works collaboratively with the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the Children’s and Adults Safeguarding Boards to ensure that there is clear leadership and responsibility where there are issues that may overlap in to different partnership agendas. The community safety strategy presents high level priorities and actions so these will be underpinned by more detailed plans that will be developed with the relevant partnerships.

London Crime Prevention Fund (LCPF)

- 3.20 The Safer Croydon Partnership was previously responsible for the management of a number of ring fenced grants although these have now ceased entirely and replaced with the London Crime Prevention Fund (LCPF) administered by the Mayor’s Office for Police and Crime (MOPAC). Direct funding to boroughs is committed for 2 years to allow for flexibility in terms of spend over a 24 month period. Croydon’s allocation is set out below:-

2016/17 Allocation	2017/18 Allocation	2018/19 Allocation	Compared to 2016/17	17/18 and 18/19 combined
£601,250	£833,527	£583,469	£-177,810	£1,416,996

- 3.21 Croydon has continued with a number of existing projects but have used the opportunity to develop some new projects, which are more in line with MOPACs new policing and crime plan. The projects confirmed for 17/18 and 18/19 are for the following areas:
- Gangs – County lines, key work and intelligence
 - Knife crime prevention
 - Young offenders – early interventions, education and training and mentoring
 - Safer London Foundation – Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)
 - Victim Support with a focus on young victims
 - Anti Social Behaviour
 - Hate Crime
 - Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
 - Integrated Offender Management
- 3.22 From April 2019 MOPAC are proposing a 30% top slice fund of LCPF allocations across London, which will then be used for regional commissioning projects. For Croydon this is a reduction of c£250k. The process of agreeing the priorities for the regional projects is yet to be confirmed in any detail but this does represent a risk to the delivery of the local projects currently being commissioned. It is also worth noting that this also represents an opportunity for new projects being available in Croydon. The key issue for the partnership is to ensure that is engaging with the process and that any future regional projects take into account local needs. Discussions are underway with regional

colleagues to assess joint priorities and what opportunities there may be to commission services together.

Priority Setting

- 3.23 As we set out our three-year plan, we also need to consider external factors such as on-going financial pressures, the impact of Brexit, the threat of terrorism, and how crime is changing. For example, burglary offences are reducing but on-line fraud has nearly doubled during the past few years. The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB), recorded 119,426 incidents in 2011/12 but this rose to 230,406 in 2014/15 and 85% of all identity fraud now occurs online.
- 3.24 Taking into account these factors, and the findings from the 2016 Strategic Crime Assessment, public consultation as well as the views from stakeholders, during the next 3 years our draft strategic priorities are:-
- **Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime and domestic violence.**
 - **Improve the safety of children and young people.**
 - **Improve public confidence and community engagement.**
 - **Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime.**
 - **Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime; focus on hate crime.**
- 3.25 The community safety strategy was discussed at the Scrutiny committee on 7th March 2017. The draft strategy was shared with the committee who were supportive of the draft priorities. Although the committee's conclusions and recommendations are still to be formally agreed the areas of discussion at the committee have been included in the final draft of the strategy.
- 3.26 The strategy supports the 2017-2021 London Police and Crime Plan and builds on a solid foundation of successful partnership working on crime and anti-social behaviour in Croydon. Much of what we set out in our previous strategy has been achieved. However, we also recognise that there is still much more to do, but we are determined to work together to make Croydon a safer place to live, work and visit.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 As well as analysing data provided by partner agencies, the development of the Strategy also takes into consideration the views of local communities. The SCP ran an on-line survey which started 19 September and ended 20th November 2016 (sample size of 567 respondents). The respondents to the questionnaire were self-selecting meaning that there are limitations with the conclusions that can be drawn from it. However, the sample size was significant so it does give a useful indication of public feeling.

In this most recent survey the top 5 crimes of most concern are:

- anti-social behaviour

- burglary
- fly-tipping,
- people dealing or using drugs
- violent crime.

The top 5 comments identified the following issues as a concern:

- more visible policing in the borough, especially in the Town Centre at night
- more CCTV coverage for the borough
- tougher sanctions on fly tipping, littering and spitting
- more wardens patrolling housing estates
- tackling ASB in local neighbourhoods

5 FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 There are no direct consequences as a result of this report.

5.2 The effect of the decision

The decision approves the wider strategy in relation to crime reduction but does not commit the council to any additional spend. The Safer Croydon Partnership is responsible for commissioning projects from the London Crime Prevention Fund. Croydon has been awarded £833,527 in 2017/18 and £583,469 in 2018/19 so this strategy ensures that we are clear about our local priorities and that this grant is allocated to the right projects. Funding for the final year of the strategy will be confirmed in the future and expenditure will be contained within the funding available.

5.3 Risks

The main resource for delivering the strategy will be the partners themselves. This will include in particular the Police, Council, Probation, Courts, NHS and Prisons. All public sector services continue to face significant challenges in meeting budget cuts. The strategy takes into account these challenges and details a number of new ways of working in partnership to ensure that we provide efficient and effective services.

5.4 Options

No options have been identified.

5.5 Future savings/efficiencies

None have been identified which arise directly from the report recommendations.

(Approved by: Lisa Taylor, Director of Finance, Investment and Risk, and Deputy S151 officer)

6. COMMENTS OF THE COUNCIL SOLICITOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

6.1 The Solicitor to the Council advises that Section 4 of the Local Government Act 2000 imposes a duty on local authorities to prepare a community strategy for promoting or improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of their areas and contributing to the sustainable development in the United

Kingdom.

- 6.2 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by Section 22 of the Police and Justice Act 2006) responsible authorities are required to work together through Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. In this respect Section 6 requires these authorities to formulate and implement a Strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in their area (including anti-social behaviour adversely affecting the local environment) and for combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area
- 6.3 Regulations made under S.6 provide that the Strategy must be published and include the objectives to be pursued and the long term and short term performance targets for measuring the extent to which these objectives have been achieved.
- 6.4 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by Section 22 of the Police and Justice Act 2006) imposes a duty on local authorities and police authorities to exercise their functions with regard to effect on crime and disorder. They are required to do all they can to prevent crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment) & the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances.

(Approved James Derby, Corporate Solicitor for and on behalf of the Director of Law, Council Solicitor and Monitoring Officer)

7. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

- 7.1 There are no immediate human resource impacts arising from the recommendations within this report.
- 7.2 Approved by: Jason Singh, Head of HR Employee Relations on behalf of the Director of HR.

8. EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.1 All activities in the Community Safety Strategy have been subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) which highlights a range of potential positive impacts arising from the new strategy and the approach of the Safer Croydon Partnership. Positive impacts include improved services for victims of crime, which disproportionately affect young people and women, such as robbery and domestic violence. Furthermore, the strategy sets out actions to positively impact other protected groups including reducing hate crime, trafficking, violent extremism and honour based violence.
- 8.2 It also highlights the potential negative effect on young people with regard to enforcement action to tackle ASB, which should be mitigated through our work with Children's Services and community engagement generally prior to and during such an intervention. However, overall the strategy will have a positive impact on protected groups.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

9.1 This is contained within the Community Safety Strategy and includes activities to deal with a range of environmental crimes such as graffiti and fly tipping.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

10.1 The Community Safety Strategy is influenced by the strategic assessment, an audit of crime and disorder in the Borough and sets out a range of priorities and activities aimed at reducing the impact of crime and disorder in the community.

11. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS/PROPOSED DECISION

Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by Section 22 of the Police and Justice Act 2006) Local Authorities are required to work together through Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships to formulate and implement a Strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in their area (including anti-social behaviour adversely affecting the local environment) and for combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area. The agreement of the Community Safety Strategy is therefore a statutory requirement.

12. OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

12.1 There are no other options available.

CONTACT OFFICER: Andy Opie, Director of Safety

BACKGROUND PAPERS: Equality analysis

Appendix to this report:

Appendix A: Draft Community Safety Strategy 2017-20



Safer Croydon
Community Safety Strategy
2017-2020

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Introduction

The Safer Croydon Partnership (SCP) acts as the statutory Community Safety Partnership for Croydon as stipulated by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The SCP is responsible for co-ordinating the development and implementation of Croydon's Community Safety Strategy. The partnership comprises police, council, fire, probation and health agencies, as well as businesses, community and voluntary sector organisations.

The Crime Survey for England and Wales published September 2016, estimated 6.7 million adults aged 16 and over, were a victim of at least 1 crime and that 4.6 million offences were reported in 2016, an annual rise of 7%. However, a large proportion of the rise is considered to be due to continued improvements, in crime-recording practices and processes.

The current trend for the total number of offences is up by +3.05% (893 offences) when compared to the previous financial year although the long term picture shows that crime has fallen significantly over the last 10 years. Croydon ranks 6th by volume and 19th by rate per 1,000 populations (1 being highest) when compared with all the other London Boroughs. With regards to specific crimes the trend for acquisitive crimes such as thefts and burglaries are significantly down however violent crimes are on the increase.

There is a correlation between areas of high deprivation and crime rates in Croydon; more crime is committed in the north of the borough, largely due to a higher population density, and more pockets of deprivation. Vulnerability is becoming increasingly concentrated within certain places and amongst certain individuals. According to the Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime's (MOPAC's) Vulnerable Localities Profile, the top 10 per cent 9 of wards (63) are disproportionately impacted compared to other parts of London. On average, over 3 times more victims of burglary, robbery, sexual offences live in these top 10 per cent compared to the least vulnerable. Repeat victimisation is also a key issue; around one in 10 crimes is committed against people who have been victims of crime in the previous year. Perpetrators of other crimes, such as domestic abuse, have much higher levels of repeat victimisation.

Croydon's reputation as a place is improving, but there is more work to do. The findings from the 2016 Fear of Crime Survey confirms most residents do feel safe, but 23% feel unsafe to some degree. The results of the 2016 Crime Quiz found all of the respondents thought levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in Croydon are much higher than actual reported cases. Therefore, we want to increase public confidence and reduce the fear of crime in Croydon. We believe the best way to do this is to continuously improve the way all of our local partner agencies and services work together delivering solutions to local crime and anti-social behaviour problems.

As we set out our three-year plan, we also need to consider external factors such as a growing and more diverse population, on-going financial pressures, the impact of Brexit, the threat of terrorism, and how crime is changing. For example, burglary offences are reducing but on-line fraud has nearly doubled during the past few years. The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) recorded 119,426 incidents in 2011/12 but this rose to 230,406 in 2014/15 and 85% of all identity fraud now occurs online.

From March 2017, following adoption of the Mayor's Police and Crime Plan MOPAC are proposing to adopt a new method for prioritising and scrutinising local policing priorities. High harm crimes and protecting vulnerable people will be included in local priorities in every borough to ensure that the police and local partners are focused properly on these most serious and harmful offences against vulnerable people. This includes a focus on child sexual

exploitation, violence against women and girls, gangs, knife crime and gun crime. The key priorities identified in the police and crime plan are:

- A better criminal justice service for London
- A better police service for London
- Standing together against hatred and intolerance
- Keeping children and young people safe
- Tackling violence against women and girls

MOPAC have recognised that the issues of greatest concern in one borough may be very different to those of another. Therefore, antisocial behaviour and volume crime priorities will be selected by each borough on the basis of their local assessments, crime statistics and local residents' views to result in a manageable level of priorities. The additional priorities agreed with MOPAC for Croydon are violence with injury (non-domestic abuse), ASB and burglary.

This strategy therefore supports the 2017-2021 London Police and Crime Plan and builds on a solid foundation of successful partnership working on crime and anti-social behaviour in Croydon. Given the emphasis on vulnerability and supporting victims it is even more crucial that the Safer Croydon Partnership works collaboratively with the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the Children's and Adults Safeguarding Boards to ensure that there is clear leadership and responsibility where there are issues that may overlap in to different partnership agendas. The community safety strategy presents high level priorities and actions so these will be underpinned by more detailed plans that will be developed with the relevant partnerships.

Taking into account these factors, and the findings from the 2016 Strategic Crime Assessment, public consultation as well as the views from stakeholders, during the next 3 years our strategic priorities will be:-

- **Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime and domestic abuse**
- **Improve the safety of children and young people**
- **Improve public confidence and community engagement.**
- **Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime**
- **Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime; focus on hate crime**

We have made good progress against the objectives set out in our last strategy. However, we also recognise that there is still much more to do, but we are determined to work together to make Croydon a safer place to live, work and visit.

Croydon facts

Croydon is London's southern-most borough and covers an area of 87 square kilometres. It is one of London's biggest local retail and commercial centres, with good rail, tram and road links, more than 120 parks and open spaces and some of London's most expensive housing.

We are just about to embark on a long term Growth Programme which is a partnership between Central Government, Croydon Council, the Greater London Authority and Transport for London. The aim is to finance and deliver an infrastructure programme, at a cost of £495m, which is essential to facilitate growth in central Croydon.

Croydon is a great place to live and work in and to visit, but we still have areas that are among the most disadvantaged in the country.

Croydon's population is changing rapidly. Over the next 25 years, 75,000 more people will be living in the borough. It has one of the largest and fastest growing black and minority ethnic populations in South London (with 100 languages spoken). The population is significantly denser in wards in the north of the borough, with a fifth of all Croydon residents living in just four northern wards

Croydon has the largest population of 0-18 year olds in London at 97,200 residents (mid 2014 population estimate), which makes up 25.8% of the total population of Croydon. The number of residents aged 0-18 years will increase by approximately 8,200 residents by 2021. The Spring 2016 School Census showed there were a total of 56,565 pupils attending state funded schools in Croydon. This is an increase of 889 pupils or just under 2% compared to Spring 2015.

There were 3,701 children in need in Croydon as at 31 March 2015. This equates to 400.8 children in need for every 10,000 children higher than London and national averages. Croydon also has the highest number of looked after children of any London borough due to the high numbers of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) looked after by the borough. In 2015 there were 408 UASC looked after children and 385 local looked after children in Croydon.

Croydon is a safe place for most residents; the number of offences fell by over 5,000 in 10 years and is near the London average, but fear of crime is still significant. There are concerns over youth crime, violent crime including domestic abuse and sexual violence, and hate crime. We need to build trust among local people that agencies will deal with the issues that matter most to all communities.

Key issues 2014 – 2017

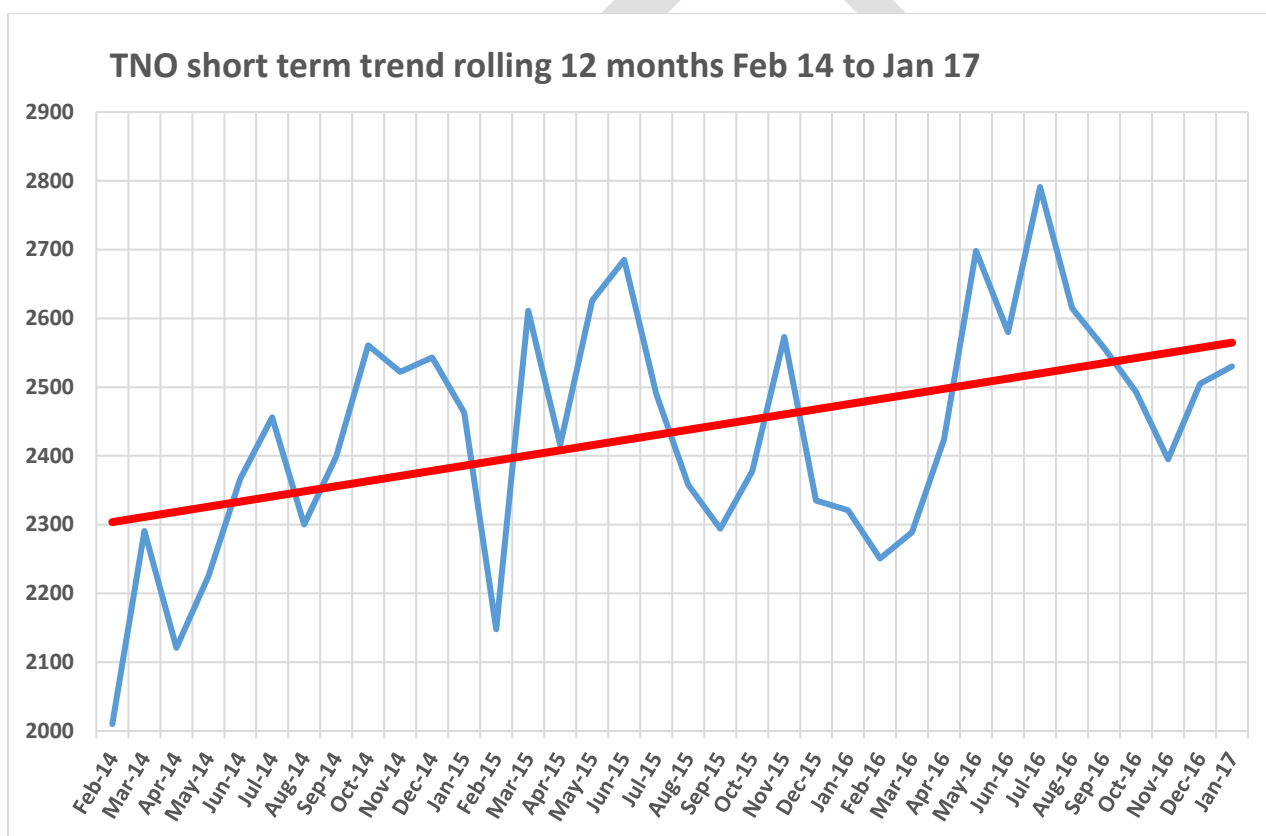
The 2014-2017 strategy set out four main objectives:

- Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime
- Improve the safety of children and young people
- Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime
- Improve public confidence and community engagement.

Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime

Table 1 below shows the short-term trend of TNO's by financial year for the 3 year period from April 2013 to Jan 2017. The chart shows that the short-term trend is increasing.

Table 1 TNO 3 year crime trend rolling 12 months to January 2017



The current trend is up by +3.05% (893 offences) when compared to the previous financial year Croydon ranks 6th by volume and 19th by rate per 1,000 populations (1 being highest) when compared with all the other London Boroughs.

12 months	Volume	12 months	Volume	Variance	% change
Feb 15 - Jan 16	29235	Feb 16 - Jan 17	30128	+893	+3.05%
Feb 14 - Jan 15	28257	Feb 15 - Jan 16	29235	+978	+3.36%
Feb 13 - Jan 14	28375	Feb 14 - Jan 15	28257	-118	0.41%

The table below shows Croydon police have seen 839 more incidents (29.94% increase) in the number of Violence with Injury incidents since the introduction of the MOPAC 7 performance framework in 2011/12.

MOPAC 7 crime type	Baseline 2011/12	Position at 21st March 2017	Percentage change
MOPAC 7 total	17333	14609	-15.7%
Burglary	4492	2726	-39.3%
Criminal damage	4544	3296	-7.0%
Robbery	1834	1290	-29.7%
Theft from MV	2871	1977	-31.1%
Theft from person	795	582	-26.8%
Theft of MV	995	1097	-10.3%
Violence with injury	2802	3641	29.9%

(Source: Met Police Daily Dashboard Croydon dated 21st MARCH 2017)

The increase in VWI has not just happened in Croydon but has been seen across many boroughs for the same period. The increases may in part, be due the changes the Metropolitan Police Service made in their recording systems and that all incidents are now being more accurately recorded than previously. All other MOPAC 7 crimes have seen significant decreases since 2011/12.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

There have been increases in reports of both domestic abuse and sexual violence offences in the last year. Up to date statistics can be found on the following link <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/data-and-research/crime>

Croydon has the highest number of rapes in London. However, this could be due to an increase in reporting due to improved confidence in the police. Croydon has the largest Rape Crisis Centre in London and works closely with the Metropolitan Police Service Sapphire units to bring perpetrators to justice.

A complete review of our response to domestic abuse has been undertaken at both an operational and strategic level. There is a new governance structure and a multi-agency action plan in place to prevent and tackle domestic and sexual violence, links with the voluntary sector have been strengthened and the services available have been firmly embedded within the 'Think Family' model of intervention. An average of 12 service users are seen at the Family Justice Centre (FJC) each day and the highest ever number of high risk cases discussed at the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) in Croydon was recorded in 2015/16 at 448 cases (a 32% year on year increase).

Outcomes

Our partnership approach is essential to supporting the broad ranging needs of our client group. Universal services such as GPs, health visitors, schools and early years settings are joined up to the domestic abuse services through named leads, trained to help victims access pathways for support. In the past year, 94 schools and 35 GPs have nominated a lead to act as a single point of contact with the council's domestic abuse service. We have seen a 41% increase year on year referrals from health environments as a result.

Provision of support from the drugs and alcohol worker at FJC empowers vulnerable women who may otherwise not seek support at a mixed gender environment for fear of additional risk. As a result, more women with substance misuse issues are accessing support for domestic abuse issues. A thriving women's support group now meets weekly at the centre as a result of this provision.

By working closely with the police, the Independent Domestic Violence Adviser (IDVA) provides immediate support when taken along to domestic abuse call-outs. This was a scheme piloted in 2016 and has led to an IDVA being posted to the Police community safety unit on a full time basis, to support practice within the police station

An IDVA at Croydon University Hospital, working primarily in the emergency department and maternity ward, completes assessments onsite when pregnant women or those in A&E disclose domestic abuse. Advice is therefore accessed sooner as individuals often lose the impetus to report or seek support once they leave the hospital.

In addition to this we have 3 IDVA's embedded within Children's Centres in the Borough.

Coordinated action in partnership with statutory agencies and primary care providers has helped to ensure that those affected by domestic abuse but socially isolated can be reached and helped. A flexible approach has meant that support has been offered at GP surgeries and schools where a perpetrator is most likely to allow their victim to go without excessive monitoring. Through the helpline and forums that support professionals, the reach of the Family Justice Centre has extended beyond the building it occupies enabling more people to access support when affected by domestic abuse.

Improve the safety of children and young people

A Youth Crime Prevention Plan has been implemented and is overseen by the Youth Crime Board. This sets out a range of partnership actions to deliver against the following aims:

- Helping young people change their lives to make Croydon a safer place
- To reduce levels of offending and anti-social behaviour by young people
- To disrupt and reduce gang activity
- To disrupt and reduce the number of vulnerable young people involved in "County Lines" drug dealing
- To adopt a "think family" approach building on the strengths of families and reduces risk factors
- To ensure appropriate plans are in place to safeguard young people who may be vulnerable to violence, sexual exploitation, gangs, bullying and domestic abuse
- To tackle the causes of Serious Youth Violence
- To deter Children and Young People from carrying and potentially using or being a victim of knife crime

There are many projects supporting vulnerable young victims and perpetrators of crime. This includes the Safer London Foundation who deliver workshops and engage with young people at risk of sexual exploitation; RASASC have been working in Croydon schools, colleges and PRU'S, delivering workshops around Consent, Sexual Violence, Myths, Gender stereotypes and providing referral information to young people; the gangs multi agency team targeting those at risk and involved in gang related crime; council and voluntary and community sector based youth services as well as the Youth Offending Service (YOS) itself.

Outcomes:

Reduction in the number of young people enter the criminal justice system for the first time

On target. YOS has continued to have a relatively stable number of first time entrant's with a reduction from 221 to 208 young people. In the last 12 months, the YOS and police have diverted 247 young people from prosecution with a 14% re-offending rate for this group.

Reductions in the numbers of young people re-offending

Good progress has been made with the re-offending rate which has, over the last 12 months, reduced from 47% to 43% but this remains a risk area in terms of performance as it is subject to unpredictable changes in performance.

Improved identification and targeting of young people involved in gang activity and are provided opportunities and support to exit gangs

30 young people involved in gang activity have been provided opportunities and support to exit gangs as part of a holistic approach across partner agencies with a focus on identification, diversion and enforcement leading to improved life chances.

To reduce the number of victims of youth crime

The YOS contacted 498 victims in 2015/16, around 80% made contact to seek information, advice and support and engage in a restorative process.

Improved partnership working to protect young people at risk violence, sexual exploitation, gangs, bullying and domestic abuse

The Gangs Manager attends the Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) Panel, Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), Joint Agency Group (JAG) and Missing Persons Panel to ensure intelligence and operational information is being shared appropriately with each of these multi-agency groups.

Active engagement is also in place, to ensure young people are contributing to solutions in regard to crime issues of concern to them.

Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime

The partnership has improved the information and intelligence sharing around repeat ASB incidents, in relation to victims and locations. This has resulted in an increase in enforcement activity and a reduction of nearly 20% in the number of ASB reports.

- Around 1,000 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) issued each year for the last two years;
- Prosecuted over 150 people as part of the Don't Mess With Croydon campaign (launched 2014)
- Carried out over 2,000 Duty of Care visits on shops across the borough to ensure they are disposing of trade waste correctly
- Around 200 Croydon residents have volunteered to become Community Champions and have removed tonnes of waste from problem areas over the last two years during the 100 community events that have taken place
- The council successfully applied for a three-year injunction to give police enforcement powers over the racing, known as the Croydon Cruise that took place on a weekly basis in Imperial Way. All persons were forbidden from participating in a

Car Cruise within the area. In addition, speed humps were installed at the location. The combination of the two interventions has effectively stopped this from taking place, having been a persistent issue at this location for many years.

Improve public confidence and community engagement

The new policing model has seen a total restructure of the way police operate at neighbourhood level, improving its response to local issues and the way that it engages with the community. The borough is currently performing well in terms of treating everyone fairly; however, improvements should be focussed toward raising awareness of the local policing team function, as well as methods of contacting the local policing team.

The SCP has continued to publicise its work and engage with the public to get their perceptions on crime and ASB in the borough. However, we continue to experience negative perceptions in relation to crime and ASB. The most recent surveys are summarised later in the strategy.

A Safer Croydon Communications plan was delivered – ‘Taking Pride in Croydon’ with the following aims:

1. Increase awareness of the work being done to combat crime, based on the 10-point plan. The aim? To challenge perceptions and align people’s thinking with the reality that Croydon is a safe place to live, work and visit.
2. Engage with communities on a targeted localised basis with messages that will inform, help them feel safer and promote civic pride.
3. Build stronger relationships with local press and media organisations.

In addition, specific communications plans have been developed to focus on knife crime, hate crime and DASV, which has delivered a number, campaigns including White Ribbon borough accreditation and focused communications on coercion and control and messages for friends and family on how they can identify and support victims.

Other issues

- SCP has continued to improve its multi-agency approach to the reduction of offending by tackling prolific and priority offenders and identified gang members, incorporating a risk based case management process.
- Safety and security on the transport network remains a strategic priority for the borough with a number of partnership projects underway including Operation Safeway, which is a high profile tactic of engaging with drivers at the most vulnerable junctions, providing education and enforcement where appropriate. The Council and Police Safer Transport Team have also worked in partnership to utilise the various speed detection devices at key locations around the Borough. In addition Transport for London and the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) work together to run Community Roadwatch - a road safety initiative that aims to reduce speeding in residential areas. If local residents want to take part they can contact their local MPS Safer Transport team, which can be located through the Met Police website or on the following link [MPS Safer Transport Team](#).
- Body worn cameras initiative piloted by Croydon police, now being rolled out to all other London Boroughs is proving to be an extremely effective tool in prevention and detection of crime.

Strategic Assessment 2016

The Strategic Assessment interprets and presents the summary findings of an intelligence analysis of data provided by the police, the council and partner agencies. The product identifies current and possible future issues from sound evidence and robust analysis. Its purpose is to help inform the SCP's work programme for the coming year and beyond.

The partnership takes a problem solving approach by analysing data from a combined victim, offender and location perspective.

The diagram below demonstrates problem solving crime prevention theory at its simplest. By addressing or removing one of the three components the chances of a crime occurring are reduced or removed altogether.

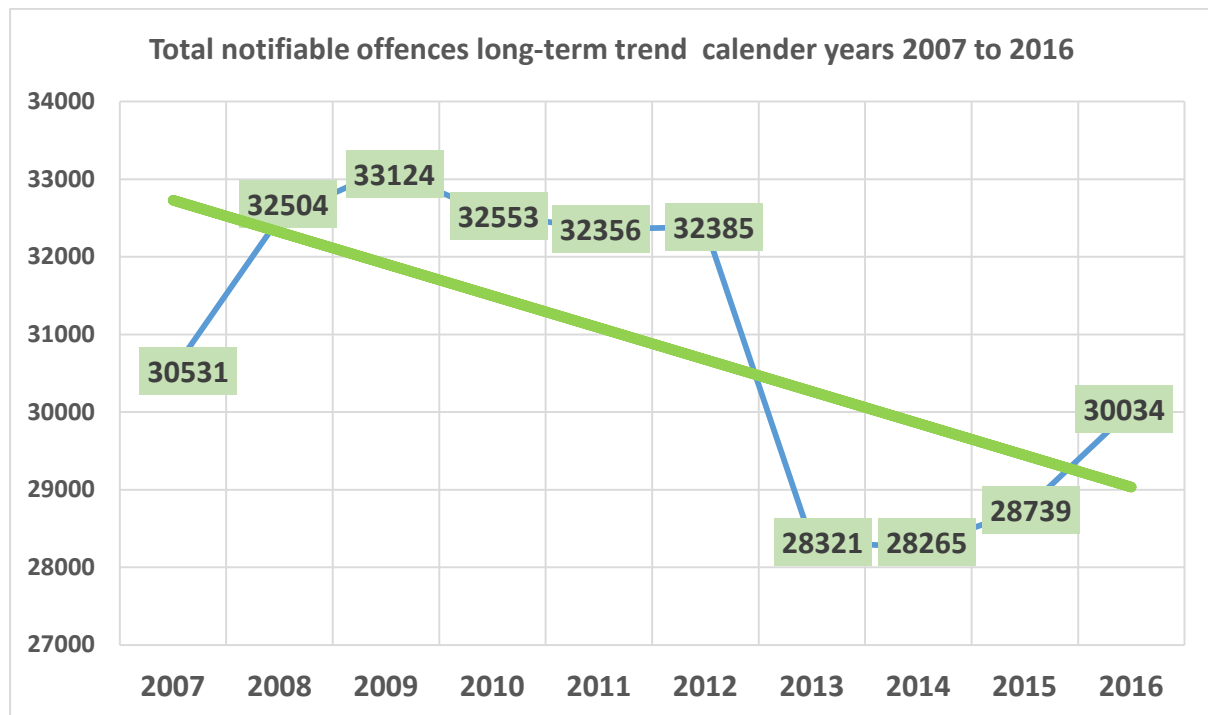
Using this approach helps the SCP to:

- Both target and work with offenders and potential offenders to stop and divert them from committing crime
- Provide support, advice and protection to victims, repeat victims and potential victims of crime
- Identify problem locations and reduce the opportunities for crime to occur.



Crime Overview

Table 2. Total Recorded Crime 11-year crime long term trend calendar year from 2007 to 2016



- Overall the volume of TNO crime in Croydon, has been going down, reaching a low of 28265 TNO offences in 2014 from a base line of 34194 TNO offences in 2005
- 2015 saw a small rise overall in the volume of TNO's to 28739 offences however this was still a 16% reduction against the baseline year of 2005
- 2016 again saw a rise overall in the volume of TNO's to 30034 offences however this was still a 12% reduction against the baseline year of 2005

Police recorded crime summary

Table 3 below shows the volume variance and percentage change for the main crime types committed, when comparing the financial 2015/16 year with the previous strategic assessment produced in 2012/13 financial year.

There were 16,809 offences recorded in the financial year 2015/16; 744 offences less than in the financial year 2012/13 a 4% reduction.

Crime type	2012/13	2015/16	Vol. variance	% change
Assault with injury (non DV)	1084	996	-88	-8%
Violence with injury	2739	3389	+650	+24%
Serious youth violence	318	286	-32	-10%
Common assault	1556	2486	+930	+60%
Gun crime	115	67	-48	-42%
Knife crime	607	389	-218	-36%
Domestic violence	2432	3737	+1305	+54%
Racist and religious crime	314	515	+201	+64%
Residential burglary	2909	1687	-1231	-42%
Theft of motor vehicle	921	694	-227	-25%
Theft from motor vehicle	2681	1996	-685	-26%
Personal robbery	1877	567	-1310	-70%
Total	17553	16809	-744	-4%

Table 3. Recorded Crime

The data above provides an overview of crime in Croydon with a focus on comparing crime statistics over a long term for the financial year 2015/16 with the previous strategic assessment produced in 2012/13

To reflect the current position and provide a complete picture the latest crime figures to 20th March 2017 are provided below.

Crime category	Offences previous rolling 12 months	Offences current rolling 12 months	Offences % change
TNO	28998	30675	5.8%
Burglary dwelling	1730	1826	5.5%
Criminal damage	3122	3296	5.6%
Robbery - person property	646	1207	86.8%
Robbery - mobile phone	273	519	90.1%
Theft from motor vehicle	1993	1977	-0.8%
Theft of motor vehicle	905	1097	21.2%
Theft person	529	582	10.0%
Theft – mobile phone	330	298	-9.7%
Violence with injury domestic abuse	1234	1311	6.2%
Violence with injury non domestic abuse	2173	2330	7.2%
Sexual offences - rape	304	335	10.2%
Sexual offences - other	435	483	11.0%
Gun crime	80	105	31.3%
Lethal-barreled gun discharge	8	7	-12.5%
Knife crime	338	658	94.7%
Knife crime victims (U25 non DA)	61	100	63.9%

Key Findings

Offence profile

- All violent crimes have seen increases in the last year.
- Racist and religious hate crime has seen an increase
- Gun crime and knife crime saw reductions up until 15/16 but have then seen large increases in the last year.
- Residential burglary, and personal robbery have seen a marked reductions up until 15/16 with a small increase in 16/17
- Theft of a motor vehicle and theft from a motor vehicle have both seen reductions up to 15/16 with increases in 16/17.
- Robbery saw a 70% reduction between 12/13 and 15/16 but has then seen a large increase in 2016/17
- Domestic abuse continues to see an upward trend across London. In the rolling year to December 2016 there were 3800 domestic abuse offences recorded. Croydon is ranked 7th highest for domestic abuse, with 21 incidents per 1,000 population in the rolling year to December 2016
- Fly tipping has also increased and is a concern for the public; however this may be a consequence of our successful 'Don't Mess With Croydon Campaign resulting in more people being aware of the problem
- The current trend shows that anti-social behaviour has dropped significantly over the last few years but has seen a small increase in the last year

Victims

- There were 10,698 victims of crime in Croydon. Of those victims, there were slightly more females than males
- The peak age range for victims are aged 20 to 24, the most vulnerable age group are aged 15 to 34.

Offenders

- There were 2783 offenders of those there were more male offenders than female
- The offenders most likely to commit offences of violence are aged 15 to 29. Offenders aged 15 to 19 are most likely to commit knife crime offences.
- Offenders most likely to commit offences of violence are aged 15 to 29

Locations

- Croydon town centre is the key crime hot spot together with the northern wards, primarily due to their large population and transport links.

Time and day

- Across the week the peak time for all offences is from 3pm to 7pm and 8pm to 1am, and the peak days for crime are Sunday and Saturday

Volume variance and percentage change for the main crime types

Crime type	2012/13	2015/16	Vol. variance	% change
Assault with injury (non DV)	1084	996	-88	-8%
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Road Safety

Since 2000, there has been a general long term downward trend in collision and casualty rates for all road users. Casualty data for 2016 is not currently available and are unlikely to be finalised for use by Local Authorities until around April 2017. As such, 2015 is the latest full year for which data is available.

The number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions on Croydon in 2015 is at an all time low, having dropped from the previous record low of 71 in 2014, to 65 in 2015. The three year rolling average has fallen to 69.0, and is below the target figure of 87.8 for the year 2020.

Public engagement summary

The Safer Croydon Partnership undertook two separate engagement exercises in 2016 to gauge views on crime and safety. This included the annual crime survey as well as a crime quiz to test people's assumptions on how much crime actually takes place in the Borough.

The findings are drawn from an on-line survey, which started on 19 September and ended 20th November 2016. There was a sample size of 567 respondents but only people over 18 years were questioned. Respondents were also self-selecting in that they chose to complete the questionnaire, which means it cannot be representative of all views. However, they do provide a helpful steer on local opinions.

- The previous survey (2013) had 581 respondents, the top 5 crimes of most concern at that time were:
 - violent crime
 - anti-social behaviour,
 - youth crime
 - robbery
 - burglary.In this survey the top 5 crimes of most concern are:
 - anti-social behaviour
 - burglary
 - fly-tipping
 - people dealing or using drugs
 - violent crime.
- In the previous survey, 386 respondents thought anti-social behaviour in Croydon town centre is a problem; this time 104 neither agreed nor disagreed, 377 agreed anti-social behaviour in Croydon town centre is a problem and 46 did not answer the question.
- In the previous survey 359 respondents, thought crime in Croydon town centre is a problem; this time 161 neither agreed nor disagreed, 323 agreed crime in Croydon town centre is a problem, and 58 did not answer the question.
- In the previous survey, 107 respondents thought Croydon town centre is a safe place for people; this time 165 agreed crime in Croydon town centre is a safe place for people to visit.
- In the previous survey 388 respondents thought the number of police patrols including Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers (NEO's) had increased or not changed in the last 12 months; this time 150 neither agreed nor disagreed, 230 agreed the number of patrols had increased or not changed and 43 did not answer the question.
- Respondents living in Croydon were asked if crime in their local area has increased or decreased in the last year. This question was not asked in the previous survey. 58 did not answer the question, 63 did not live in Croydon, 41 said it had decreased and 255 said it had increased, with 147 respondents saying it had stayed the same.
- In the previous survey, respondents identified the following top 5 crimes in their local area as a problem: graffiti, abandoned vehicles, vehicle related nuisance, noise nuisance and nuisance behaviour. In this survey, fly tipping, burglary, drugs (dealing and using) street drinking and theft were identified as the top 5 local crimes.

- In the previous survey the top 5 comments identified the following issues as a concern:
 - more police patrols
 - praise for the police, council and SCP
 - fear of crime
 - lack of police resources
 - fly tipping.

- In this survey the top 5 comments identified the following issues as a concern:
 - more visible policing in the borough, especially in the Town Centre at night
 - more CCTV coverage for the borough
 - tougher sanctions on fly tipping, littering and spitting
 - more wardens patrolling housing estates
 - tackling ASB in local neighbourhoods.

The SCP note that although crime and anti-social behaviour are reducing, the fear of crime remains a concern for residents; the findings from the 2016 Crime Quiz below evidence the perception of crime is far greater than the reality.

2016 Croydon Crime Quiz findings

A quiz was developed to test people's perceptions of crime and ASB in the Borough. A total of 423 replies were received. Overall, all of the respondents thought levels of crime and ASB in Croydon are much higher than they actually are. Of particular interest:

We asked respondents to think about the number of specific crimes e.g. burglary, robbery, vehicle theft, that take place on average each day in Croydon. The majority of respondents thought the figure was far higher than it actually is.

We asked respondents to think about how many young people (10 to 17) came to the attention of the youth offending service during 2014/15. All of the 353 respondents overestimated the figure. This would indicate public perception of young people and their involvement in crime and ASB is extremely negative.

We asked respondents to rank Croydon compared with other London boroughs, again the majority thought Croydon's crime rate was much higher than it actually is.

Conclusions

Given the wide range of data sets that have been used, the views of the public and the impact of crime on individuals and local communities this matrix has been specifically designed to assist with the decision-making process to identify the strategic objectives for the new 2017/2020 Community Safety Strategy.

The matrix assesses each crime and anti-social behaviour type under 8 different categories as follows:

Categories	Definition
Volume	Total number of incidents for the period
Individual impact	The potential vulnerability of and risk and harm to individuals
Community Impact	The potential risk and harm to communities/groups
Environmental impact	The potential risk and harm to public places, retail and residential areas
Public confidence	Whether the public perceived the council and police to be dealing with the things that matter to them, high public confidence in the police and council would have a level of 0 (very low) or 1 (low)
Agency lead	The agency leading
Partnership Capacity	Current level of resources available to tackle the problem
Financial	Having sufficient financial resources in order to be able to operate efficiently and sufficiently well to tackle and reduce crime and ASB

Each of the crime and ASB categories above is scored in terms of impact and what level of impact there is for each particular crime and ASB type, the scoring key is shown in the table below.

Level of impact	Level of risk
5	Very high risk
4	High risk
3	Medium risk
2	Low risk
1	Very low risk

Levels 1, 2 and 3

Ordinary risk or low/medium risk of harm, sufficient resources and capacity available to tackle the issue/crime.

Levels 4 and 5

Increased potential risk of harm, high or very high risk of harm to individuals and places needing active involvement of more than one agency, low public confidence and potential for negative media reporting.

Table 7. Crime Matrix

Impact categories	Volume	Individual Impact	Community Impact	Environmental Impact	Public Confidence	Total	Safer Croydon Partnership Priority	Police and Crime Plan Priority	Total	Grand total
	Crime									
Violent crime	Level of impact									
Assault with injury (non DV)	4	4	4	3	5	20	3	3	6	26
Violence with injury	3	5	4	2	5	19	5	4	9	28
Serious youth violence	5	5	5	2	5	22	5	5	10	32
Gun crime	3	5	5	3	5	21	3	3	6	27
Knife crime	4	5	5	3	5	22	5	5	10	32
Domestic violence	5	5	3	2	5	20	5	5	10	30
Common assault	5	3	4	3	5	20	3	3	6	26
Racist & religious crime	3	5	3	2	5	18	4	4	8	26
Total impact categories level	32	37	33	20	40		33	32		
Acquisitive crime										
Residential burglary	4	3	4	2	5	18	2	3	5	23
Theft of motor vehicle	3	3	2	1	3	12	2	3	5	17
Theft from motor vehicle	2	3	2	1	3	11	2	3	5	16
Personal robbery	5	5	5	2	5	22	5	5	10	32
Total impact categories level	14	14	13	6	16		11	14		
Anti-social behaviour										
Reported to the police										
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	5	5	5	4	5	24	4	3	7	31
Begging vagrancy	4	3	5	5	3	20	4	2	6	26
Street drinking	3	3	4	3	4	17	4	2	6	23
Vehicle nuisance inappropriate use	4	3	5	5	2	19	5	5	10	29
Littering/drugs paraphernalia	2	2	4	5	3	16	4	2	6	22
Animal problems	2	3	2	2	3	12	1	1	2	14
Prostitution	2	2	2	2	3	11	1	1	2	13
Total impact categories level	22	21	27	26	23		23	16		
Reported to the council										
Fly tipping	5	4	5	5	5	24	5	1	6	30
Harassment/abuse/assault	3	3	3	3	3	15	5	3	8	23
Noise						0	2	1	3	3
Graffiti	5	5	5	5	5	25	4	1	5	30
Total impact categories level	13	12	13	13	13		16	6		

Based on all the data gathered for the 2016 Community Safety Strategic Assessment, feedback from public consultation, and input from all partner agencies the SCP's strategic priorities for 2017-2020 are:

- **Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon; focus on violent crime and domestic abuse**
- **Improve the safety of children and young people**
- **Improve public confidence and community engagement**
- **Tackle anti-social behaviour and environmental crime**
- **Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime; focus on hate crime**

In addition the SCP will prioritise child sexual exploitation, violence against women and girls, knife crime and gun crime. MOPAC has set out these priorities to ensure the police and local partners are focused properly on these most serious and harmful offences against vulnerable people across London.

Delivery framework

The current delivery structure is set out below although this will be kept under review to ensure that it is fit for purpose and delivering successfully against the partnerships priorities:



SAFER CROYDON BOARD The Safer Croydon Partnership Board meets five times a year and is responsible for all community safety matters across the borough. This group provides strategic leadership and makes decisions regarding resources, performance management and future developments. The Cabinet Member for Community Safety is the Chair of the Board. The key responsible authorities include council, police, health, probation, and fire.

Members of partner agencies are at a level senior enough to ensure decisions are made and resources are deployed. In addition, the Safer Croydon Board has representation from the voluntary sector as well as local residents.

Youth Crime Prevention Board (YCPB)

The Youth Crime Prevention has a dual role in acting as the statutory governance board for the Youth Offending Service as well as the strategic board overseeing the delivery of the Youth Crime prevention Plan requires a partnership approach to ensure preventative measures are put into place across all partner agencies. It includes key statutory partners with a number of different council teams involved as well as representation from the voluntary and community sector.

Joint Agency Group (JAG)

The JAG is a multi-agency problem solving group tackling anti-social behaviour. Member agencies include, Police Neighbourhood Cluster Inspectors, Youth Offending Services, Youth Outreach, Substance Misuse Outreach Services (for individuals displaying anti-social behaviour linked to alcohol and/or drugs) Croydon Connected (multi-agency gang team) Noise Team, Council and Police ASB Team, Safer Transport Teams, Fire Service, UK Border Agency and Neighbourhood Watch.

Each problem location identified is dealt with by a dedicated team responsible for pulling together short term action plans based on problem solving techniques. These are monitored by the JAG and the Police Borough Tasking Group. On-going hot spot areas, for example the Town Centre, remain as core agenda items.

Integrated Offender Management Group

A multi-agency response to reduce re-offending; by targeting the top 40 most problematic offenders the IOM framework helps to address the problems behind an offender's behaviour by effective information sharing across a range of partner agencies and jointly providing the right intervention at the right time.

Gangs Strategy Group

Oversee the delivery of the Croydon Connected Gangs Strategy. This group has a weekly case management meeting and a stakeholder forum reporting into it.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Group (DASV)

This group exists to have a strategic oversight of multi-agency responses to domestic abuse within Croydon, working in partnership to provide scrutiny to progress on the delivery of the DASV strategy and ensure the multi-agency management of domestic abuse is victim focused, efficient and effective.

The group brings together managers from key agencies and services whose remit has a direct impact on the domestic abuse and sexual violence strategy. Members are committed to effective partnership working based on trust and open communication and are aware of and understand the organisational frameworks within which colleagues in different agencies work.

Town Centre Group

This has been established to develop both strategic and operational plans to tackle crime and ASB in the town centre, working closely with local businesses, schools colleges as well as pubs and clubs.

Children's Safeguarding Board (CSCB)

The CSCB is responsible for scrutinising safeguarding arrangements across the borough. The CSCB is an independent body and challenges and holds to account the organisations working with children and young people in Croydon. The Children and Families Partnership and the CSCB work together to ensure that children and young people in Croydon are safe. Further information about the CSCB is available at <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/healthsocial/families/childproctsafe/cscb/infocscboard>

Adults Safeguarding Board

The Croydon Safeguarding Adults Board (CSAB) following the Care Act is now a statutory body with the following functions:

- Assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements are in place as defined by the Care Act
- Prevent abuse and neglect where possible
- Provide a timely and proportionate response when abuse or neglect has occurred.
- The SAB must take the lead for adult safeguarding across its locality and oversee and co-ordinate the effectiveness of the safeguarding work of its member and partner agencies. It must also concern itself with a range of matters which can contribute to the prevention of abuse and neglect such as the:
 - Safety of patients in local health services
 - Quality of local care and support services
 - Effectiveness of prisons in safeguarding offenders

It fully supports such priorities as Hate Crime & Domestic Abuse and is a part of the Cross cutting domestic abuse group. Other areas of importance to the Board include Prevent

Local Strategic Partnership

The Safer Croydon Partnership reports in to the LSP as the overarching partnership for the Borough. The LSP and its sub-groups is currently under review at the time of writing this strategy so it is likely that there will changes to the existing governance arrangements once this is completed.

Case Management

There are also many other case management forums that link into the partnership agenda including MARAC, MAPPA, MASE, Channel Panel, ASB Forum, Channel Panel, IOM panel and Gangs panel that look at specific individuals and put in place plans to reduce offending or victimisation/vulnerability

Priority 1: Reduce the overall crime rate in Croydon with a focus on violent crime and domestic and sexual violence

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV)

Our approach to tackling DASV involves a combination of partnership approaches that include mobilising the professional and community network, building capacity and capability, shared leadership perspective that drives forward the strategic partnership priorities as well as a client facing service delivered from the specialist domestic abuse and sexual violence service, the Family Justice Centre.

At the Family Justice Centre, victims receive a multi-agency assessment of their needs to avoid the frustrating process of repeating their story to get the help they need from multiple agencies. The centre is open to the public five days a week which allows access to support from services victims might otherwise be reluctant to approach or find challenging to engage with. This is achieved through a multi-disciplinary approach delivered by Independent Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence Advocates (IDVAs), drugs and alcohol worker, housing officer, legal advisors, specialist domestic abuse social worker, health professionals, the police as well as tapping in to information systems from probation and children’s social care to ensure victims/ survivors receive rapid and holistic responses.

Rape Crisis South London (RASASC) offer a confidential service to female survivors who have experienced sexual violence, at any time in their lives, from age 5 upwards in an anonymous building close to the centre of Croydon. The office is open week days from 10am to 6pm and for appointments up to 9pm, offering a holistic service which includes long term specialist therapy to facilitate recovery, the Rape Crisis Sexual Violence Helpline open every day of the year, Independent Sexual Violence Advocates who provide information about reporting to the police and support survivors who have reported through the process to the trial itself. Outreach Service working with female survivors involved in sex work, homeless women and ex-offenders, Prevention Training about sexual violence, consent, gender and myths to professionals & workshops in schools and colleges, free therapeutic massages for clients and female self defence training.

DOMESTIC ABUSE AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE - KEY ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a Volunteer Coordinator programme to train community members to act as an extension to the professional network and these volunteers would act as community connectors, supporting those who had experienced abuse to have roots within their community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase MARAC referrals and reduce numbers of repeats offences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver multi-agency training in DASV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actively participate in FGM champions network and ensure DASV and FGM agendas are well integrated
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the voice of the victim is reflected in assessments and plans.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the voice of children and young people impacted by domestic abuse and sexual violence is heard and that subsequent plans reflect their views.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly consult with service users to inform practice

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build upon the launch of the local authority's domestic abuse and sexual violence HR policy by integrating information on DASV in the induction process, establishing work based ambassadors and supporting other organisations to do the same
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign up Croydon schools to have DASV as an integral part of their safeguarding responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish leadership for domestic abuse and sexual violence within GPs to enable early identification of need and effective referral to support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise existing structures MASH, MARAC and MAPPA to disrupt perpetrators and manage high risk cases
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the use of injunctive and bail measures including DVPOs and establish a mechanism for measuring effectiveness.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on capacity and capability of courts to ensure positive outcomes and experiences for victims i.e. family court, DV court, family drug and alcohol courts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain specialist services for DASV ensuring professionals are well trained and have specialist knowledge and skills to be working with victims and perpetrators of DASV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a referral process for sexual violence survivors to receive specialist ISVA support from reporting through to and including a Crown Court trial
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upskill Croydon professionals to identify sexual violence and supporting survivors of sexual violence through specialist training and workshops
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish streamlined referral pathways for survivors of sexual violence to specialist organisations to help recovery

Violent Crime (non-domestic abuse)

A violent crime is a crime where the offender uses, or threatens to use, violent force upon the victim. The police record violent crime as either 'violence against the person', 'most serious violence' or 'serious youth violence'.

Violent crime is a key concern with 4 of the top 5 crimes identified in the Strategic Assessment, linked to violence.

VIOLENT CRIME - KEY ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the harm caused by gang activity through the multi-agency gangs team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain a visible police and partner presence in hotspots to provide reassurance, improve confidence and reduce offences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a review of the Council's Licensing Policy to take into account the growth and regeneration of the town centre and the desire to put on my events and continue to ensure that licensed premises operate safely
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish Working group on use of offensive weapons to provide recommendations to schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver Gangs awareness training to relevant partner agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage 100% of young people involved in gangs in 1:1 interventions so that they: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ are referred into needs-led Education, Training and Employment (ETE) provision ○ are referred into diversionary activities

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ are referred into relevant mainstream services including drug/alcohol, Social Care, CAMHS/Adult Services, Housing, Functional Family Therapy and Troubled Families
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish structures to ensure joint agency response to targeting of prolific gang and robbery offenders with appropriate civil enforcement interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all young people charged for knife crime receive a weapons awareness programme
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase work to identify vulnerable people being drawn into county lines – which is the setting up of drug markets across the south of England by London drug dealers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted, intelligence based use of Stop & Search to tackle knife possession

Reduce reoffending

A high volume of crime is committed by offenders described as ‘prolific or priority offenders’. Providing appropriate monitoring and supervision, and working together with offenders to tackle drug and alcohol abuse, improving their basic skills, tackling their offending behaviour and improving the chances of them getting a job has proven to help break the cycle of offending.

KEY ACTIONS - REDUCING RE-OFFENDING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage the small amount of offenders who cause a disproportionate amount of crime. To reduce the numbers of prolific offenders re-offending after 12 months.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the interventions we have in place against the seven pathways of reoffending: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accommodation 2. Education, training and employment 3. Health 4. Drugs and alcohol misuse 5. Finance, benefit and debt 6. Children and families 7. Attitudes, thinking and behaviour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackle the social exclusion of offenders and their families by providing additional support and guidance through mentors.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish structures to ensure joint agency response to targeting of prolific offenders with appropriate civil enforcement interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued work by the Jigsaw team in managing Violent and Sexual Offender Register (VISOR) nominals to prevent re-offending and ensure use of sanctions for non-compliance

Priority 2: Safety of children and young people

Priorities for improving the safety of children and young people include:

- Early intervention and prevention.
- Reducing re-offending
- To reduce levels of offending by young people in particular knife crime
- To disrupt and reduce gang activity
- To ensure young people are safe as possible from violence, sexual exploitation, gangs, bullying and domestic abuse

There are a number of related priorities running through the Croydon Safeguarding Children Board Business plan that link to the community safety strategy priorities. These include CSE, DASV, harmful sexual behaviour, radicalisation, gangs, knife crime and female genital mutilation. The community safety strategy presents high level priorities and actions so these will be underpinned by more detailed plans that will be developed with the relevant partnerships.

The Youth Engagement team respond to community, council or police led hotspot issues around youth crime, ASB and violence to signpost young people to the correct support structures and Early Help council offer.

The mobile vehicle is a community reassurance tool for young people and their families to safely access council staff and the wider community, voluntary and faith sector youth providers. The team particularly focus their work around the Town Centre and other community locations where children and young people gather. The Youth Locality Networks are community based and develop specific locality responses to issues passed through the JAG or police neighbourhood meetings relating to children and young people, those interventions are responsive and flexible to meet the needs of communities.

KEY ACTIONS: SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver YOS Triage/Out of Court Disposals programme to identify young people suitable for diversion from the criminal justice system and reduce the number of first time entrants.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joint agency approach to ensure that when young people are sentenced to custody there is a resettlement plan in place when released from custody.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safer Schools Partnerships to establish up to 21 Safer Schools Partnerships in Croydon to ensure more targeted support for those schools requiring closer police involvement.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Produce 3 specialist resources (knife, gangs, and town centre) for use in schools and youth provision across Croydon. This will be aimed at all pupils in secondary schools. The resource will allow for two 45 minute workshops that will fit in to schools timetables. This will include safety messages for young people in the town centre, which has seen several knife crime incidents recently.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver 100 workshops over the space of a year, to approximately 2000- 3000 pupils.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To contact all identified young of crime referred to the YOS to offer them relevant support as well as the opportunity to engage in direct or indirect restorative interventions • To obtain feedback from victims who we have made contact with in relation to the service they have received
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved interrogation of digital and social media to identify the risks children are exposed to and who they may be at risk from
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek to maximise intelligence being captured on police systems officers re CSE and safeguarding to ensure appropriate tasking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued improvement in sharing of multi-agency information, making greater use of MASH triaging and enhancing multi agency decision making at an early stage
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure a continued multi agency focus on child sexual exploitation to raise awareness of the issue, identify and provide support to victims and enforcement of perpetrators including increased use of Child Abduction Warning Notices and targeting of CSE perpetrators for other criminality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued partnership work re missing children to establish push / pull factors and develop trigger plans accordingly. • Improve information capture during debriefing of missing children
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street-Based service to engage young people at risk of getting involved in crime and ASB, with a particular focus on the town centre
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the numbers of young people re-offending after 12 months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure joint agency response to young people involved in gangs and robberies and the use of appropriate civil enforcement interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that there is a co-ordinated and safeguarding focus within schools, police and Council to “County lines” drug dealing in order to identify children at risk and ensure a comprehensive safeguarding and risk management response.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the proportion of young people under YOS supervision participating in education, training or employment and living suitable accommodation

Priority 3: Improving public confidence and community engagement

Increasing awareness of the role and work undertaken by the police and council in tackling crime and ASB is perceived to be key to improving public confidence. This is particularly important with respect to Neighbourhood Policing and understanding the role of the local council. The key is to provide local communities with information to improve their understanding of what is being done locally to respond to their crime and ASB concerns. Recorded crime data is after all, affected by the public's confidence and enthusiasm to report crime.

The Metropolitan Police service and Croydon Council are committed to reducing the number of road traffic collisions and subsequent casualties and will continue to work together to address issues of speeding and provide physical solutions or enforcement action where there are high numbers of recorded collisions, complaints or high degrees of non-compliance. We will also work in partnership to explore opportunities to reduce the illegal use of mobile phones, distracted and inattentive driving and drink and drugged driving.

KEY ACTIONS TO BUILD TRUST AND CONFIDENCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness of the work being done to combat crime and to challenge perceptions and align people's thinking with the reality that Croydon is a safe place to live, work and visit through a sustained communications plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a campaign focussed on knife crime to raise awareness of the issue for both young people and parents and professionals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with communities and explore closer working with enforcement partners on a targeted localised basis to increase visibility, improve relationships and develop messages that will inform, help them feel safer and promote civic pride.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build stronger relationships with local press and media organisations and be proactive in releasing positive news stories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop targeted communications for under reported crimes, such as hate crime, DASV, CSE etc. to encourage victims to come forward and get support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Safer Neighbourhood Board on monitoring police performance and confidence, to oversee the use of stop and search and to support them to effectively engage with young people and develop structure and processes that allow young people to participate meaningfully
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a communications plan to systematically engage all Croydon practitioners and the wider public on the DASV agenda
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to promote civic pride through the clean and green street champion scheme and increase the number of champions and community projects they are involved in.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in partnership with the community to monitor road deaths and identify ways to reduce them through schemes as Operation Safeway, Community Roadwatch, use of speed display signs and ANPR systems as well as physical traffic calming measures and targeted enforcement.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in partnership with the GLA to develop and deliver Vision Zero for London, a new approach to reducing road danger, setting a greater level of ambition for reducing death and serious injury on our roads.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Neighbourhood Watch to increase the number of watches and explore new ways that they can support their members

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to build trust and confidence through a programme of community events, engagement activities and by supporting community networks and relations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build relationships with communities using their local asset-base to set up new activities to promote their area, creating opportunities within these relationships to understand how communities prevent crime and support victims

Priority 4: Anti-social behaviour and environmental crime

These include those ‘quality of life’ measures that go a long way to indicate if an area looks and feels safe. Anti-social behaviour causes significant harm to individuals and communities; it can increase the fear of crime and impact on the quality of life for those affected. It also costs individuals, businesses and communities’ money through higher insurance and security costs and fewer local amenities due to the high cost of graffiti removal and repairing damage caused by vandalism. Key issues include:

- Drug and Alcohol related antisocial behaviour and crime
- Rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour
- Street drinking and begging
- Vehicle nuisance
- Fly tipping
- Arson

KEY ACTIONS ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Fire Brigade to continue to work in partnership to deliver Crossfire programme in schools, Fire Cadets and Home Fire Safety Visits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in partnership to tackle the specific issues caused in the Town Centre and, in particular, the issues that can be caused by the large numbers of young people congregating after school
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in partnership with BIDs, businesses and the community to identify and address issues in our district centres across the borough.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review all of the current public space legislation including four Drinking Ban Zones, Dog Control Orders in all parks and open spaces and 1 x Gating Order and assess whether these should be updated with PSPOs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to deliver Don’t Mess with Croydon – Take Pride campaign to raise awareness of a range of environmental issues and to get people to take more responsibility for their local area through enforcement, encouragement and education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to increase enforcement of environmental offences through Fixed Penalty Notices, Prosecutions and the seizure of vehicles.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the look and feel of our high streets through the roll out of time banded waste collection in 19 locations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on vehicle nuisance and in particular moped related theft and anti-social behaviour

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the Safer Streets programme to target street drinking through providing access to support and treatment and in enforcement of individuals where appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the full range of powers are used to prevent ASB and funding including the use of civil orders such as Criminal Behaviour Orders and Injunctions.

Priority 5: Improve support and reduce vulnerability for all victims of crime; focus on hate crime

Some communities are at higher risk of becoming victims of crime, or of being exploited by others to commit criminal acts. According to the Mayor’s Office of Policing and Crime’s (MOPAC’s) Vulnerable Localities Profile, the top 10 per cent of wards (63) are disproportionately impacted compared to other parts of London. On average, over 3 times more victims of burglary, robbery, sexual offences live in these top 10 per cent compared to the least vulnerable.

Unfortunately, hate crime is a daily problem for some people who are victimised by a small minority because of who they are. There is no place for hatred and intolerance in our communities. Hate crime is not only distressing for those who experience it, but it makes victims of whole communities. The best way to reduce hate crime is to encourage greater social integration, bringing communities together and celebrating their contribution to society. Hate crime are still underreported so we must also do all that we can to give communities confidence to report issues and make it as easy and supportive as we can to enable them to do so.

At the furthest extreme of hatred and intolerance is terrorism. Radical groups of all backgrounds continue to target or communities in their efforts to radicalise others. The first line of defence against radicalisation is strong, integrated communities. Safeguarding has always been central to counter-radicalisation strategies such as in the Government’s national Prevent programme and it is vital that partners and our communities work together to identify people at risk.

KEY ACTIONS TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF CRIME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Croydon Voluntary Action to set up and support a community-led activity base that brings people affected by hate crime together, allowing them to decide how to define their vision of safety and ways of supporting both fellow victims and people at risk of hate crime
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage local stakeholders - including businesses, schools, GPs, pharmacies, faith-based organisations and charities, as well as the Police – in developing the activity base and building around it an action plan to tackle hate crime
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To contact and engage all identified victims of crime by the children and young people referred to the YOS to inform them about sentencing outcomes/OOC disposals, offer them relevant support as well as the opportunity to engage in direct or indirect restorative interventions • To obtain feedback from victims who we have made contact with in relation to the service they have received
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a pilot in collaboration with MOPAC to test a new, whole-school approach to protecting children and young people, providing information and

<p>support on safety to teachers and pupils from Year 6 onwards and making personal safety part of everyday learning.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate, inform and challenge young people about healthy relationships, abuse and consent including engaging men and boys in challenging DASV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victim Support to work with up to 800 children and young people who have been victims of crime and/or bullying by offering advice, practical and emotional support and information through either individual casework or school and community-based engagement initiatives.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the Empower project to support victims at risk of child sexual exploitation. Support up to 20 young women on a 1 to 1 basis and deliver 4 x 10 week group work programmes, (2 young women and 2 young men) in schools discussing areas such as sex and the law, consent, gender, sexuality, media and stereotypes, peer pressure and conflict negotiation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with Croydon Community Against Trafficking to identify locations where traffickers operate and to support victims. Ensure trafficking is linked to work around County Lines
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to raise the profile of Prevent and Channel including the delivery of Operation Dovetail and the delivery of training to front line professionals